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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****NOV 19 2007****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Jaffee et al

Art Unit: 1771

Serial No. 10/718,007

Case Docket No.7237

Filed: November 20, 2003

Examiner: Matzek, Matthew D.

For: Method of Making Tough, Flexible Mats and Tough Flexible Mats

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

I, Alan M. Jaffee, hereby declare that:

1. I received Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Chemical Engineering from the University of Toledo in 1977 and 1985, respectively. I have worked in the chemical industry since 1976 and have been employed by Johns Manville, Inc., at the Waterville, OH, facilities since 1983, working in the area of sized glass fibers and fibrous nonwoven mats. For the last twenty-five (25) years my duties at Johns Manville have included the research, development, and application of glass fibers and non-woven products made therewith. I am currently the Principal Technical Advisor in the development of new fibrous nonwoven mats.
2. I am a joint inventor of the subject matter of the above-identified application, Serial No. 10/718,007, filed November 20, 2003.
3. I am also the inventor of the invention disclosed in U.S. Patent 5,772,846, and state that the stiffness data shown in Examples 1, 2 and 3 and in the Table were determined using the Taber Stiffness Test and that this data is Taber Stiffness. This Taber Stiffness Test is the same test used to determine the

stiffness data presented in the above-identified application, Serial No. 10/718,007, filed November 20, 2003.

4. Example 2 in U.S. Patent 5,772,846 was Johns Manville's commercial mat product designated by Johns Manville as Duraglass® 8802 mat. This Duraglass® 8802 mat is unsuitable for the collapsible web of the compressible ceiling tiles disclosed in U. S. Published Patent Application No. 20020020142 filed April 23, 2001, because of insufficient stiffness and because it doesn't pass the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Method #701 Flammability Test.

5. Example 3 and the other mats of the invention disclosed in U.S. Patent 5,772,846 are also unsuitable for the collapsible web of the compressible ceiling tiles disclosed in U. S. Published Patent Application No. 20020020142 filed April 23, 2001, because of insufficient stiffness and because the smoke toxicity upon burning of the PVC binder in the mat was unacceptable.

6. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signed: 

Alan M. Jaffee
822 Touraine Ave.
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Date: 11/14/07